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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) 25X1 REPORT NO. 25X1

TOPIC Reorganization of Volkspolizei Dienststelle 1213 in Prenzlau

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT prior to 13 February 1952

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 17 March 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. The reorganization of Volkspolizei Dienststelle (VPD) 1213 in Prenzlau began in January 1952. There were 1,800 to 2,000 police in the VPD which was located in the former Fliegerhorst on Puschkinstrasse and in the Artillerie Kaserne on Alsenstrasse. The reorganization resulted in the following structure:
VPD headquarters with medical section; 3 infantry Kommandos of 3 Abteilungen each; 1 artillery Kommando of 5 batteries, with 1 headquarters Zug and 1 fire Zug to each battery; 4 Sonderabteilungen, namely a reconnaissance unit, an AT artillery unit, an AA unit and a tank unit; and 1 motor transport section of about 25 drivers and 20 student drivers. Each Abteilung of the infantry Kommandos was organized into 2 rifle Zuege, 1 heavy machine gun Zug, 2 mortar batteries, 1 signal-communication Zug, 1 engineer Zug, and 1 reconnaissance squad which was furnished by the 1st Sonderabteilung. Each rifle Zug consisted of two Gruppen, and each Gruppe had 2 NCOs and 20 police. The heavy machine gun Zug consisted of three Gruppen, with 1 NCO and 4 police to each Gruppe. The signal-communications Zug had 1 telephone Gruppe and 1 radio Gruppe, with 1 NCO and 21 police to each Gruppe.
2. Heavy weapons observed with the VPD included 4 T-34 tanks, 3 SP guns, 1 artillery piece of 76.2-mm, and 3 AA guns of undetermined caliber. The VPD was equipped with the following vehicles: 10 Horch trucks, 6 Horch-Diesel trucks, 9 ZIS trucks, 10 BMW sedans, 3 Mercedes sedans, 1 Opel sedan, 2 Volkswagen sedans, 2 Phaenomen ambulances, 10 BMW motorcycles, 6 Jawa motorcycles, 3 AVO motorcycles and 1 AVO sidecar motorcycle. Signal equipment observed with the unit included 1 model F field radio set, 1 model B portable radio set, 1 10-watt ultrahigh frequency transmitter, 1 model 33 field telephone, 1 portable switchboard with 10 extensions, an undetermined number of switchboards with 50 and 100 extensions, measuring bridges and field testing sets, wire tapping clamps, listening earsets and listening circuits.
3. The following VPD officers, whose first names are unknown, were known to source:

VP Kommandeur von Witzleben	Commanding officer.
VP Oberrat Suessmilch	Deputy commander and PK chief.
VP Oberrat Pitschaf	Deputy commander in charge of training.
VP Oberrat Kuschbert	Chief of staff.
VP Kommandeur Fetter	Deputy commander in charge of artillery training.

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VP Kommandeur Gauck

Deputy commander in charge of armored training.

VP 1st Lohse

Deputy commander in charge of supply.

VP 1st Boden

Commanding officer of the 1st Kommando.

VP 1st Muenster

Commanding officer of the 2d Kommando.

VP 1st Kippig

Commanding officer of the 3d Kommando.

VP 1st Lakeuns

Commanding officer of the 4th Kommando.

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[REDACTED] Comment. The reorganization of VPD 1213 generally corresponds with other information on VPDs following their reorganization. However, the following deviations occur: first, the infantry Abteilungen usually have 3 rifle Zug and 6 light machine guns, rather than 2 rifle Zug and 1 heavy machine gun Zug; second, signal-communications Zug, engineer Zug and mortar company are usually subordinate to the Kommandos rather than to the Abteilungen, with the infantry Kommando having only 1 mortar company and 1 heavy machine gun company instead of the 2 mortar batteries mentioned in the present report; and third, the reconnaissance squad is probably assigned to the infantry Kommando rather than to the infantry Abteilung. It is believed that there has been a motor transport section and a medical section assigned to each VPD for some time. The organization of the artillery Kommando and the existence of 4 Sonderabteilungen, namely a reconnaissance unit, an AT artillery unit, an AAA unit and an armored unit, agrees with previous information. The heavy weapons and motor/vehicle equipment continues to be sufficient for only the barest necessities of training. The personnel strength of 1,800 to 2,000 men exceeds the previous strength by 300 to 500 men and is probably overestimated. Information of November 1951 specified the strength of the VPD in Prenzlau at only 1,500 police.

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